

What is claimed is:

1. A layout system, comprising layout section for laying
out listed information, the layout section generating a layout
by storing the listed information in a plurality of information
5 storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,
wherein a movable direction of the information storage
frames on the layout region is set, and
the layout section is set to move one of the information
storage frames along the movable direction relative to the
10 other information storage frames.

2. The layout system according to claim 1, wherein when the
plurality of information storage frames overlap each other
with the listed information stored in the information storage
15 frames, the layout section moves at least one of the plurality
of overlapping information storage frames along the movable
direction of the information storage frames with the plurality
of overlapping information storage frames not overlapping each
other.

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3. A layout system, comprising layout section for laying
out listed information, the layout section generating a layout
by storing the listed information in a plurality of information
storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,
25 wherein a movable region of the information storage frames
on the layout region is set, and

the layout section is set to move one of the information storage frames in the movable region relative to the other information storage frames.

5 4. The layout system according to claim 3, wherein when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section moves at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in the movable region
10 of the information storage frames with the plurality of overlapping information storage frames not overlapping each other.

5. A layout system, comprising listed information storage
15 section for storing two or more pieces of listed information, listed information selecting section for selecting desired listed information from the listed information registered in the listed information storage section, and layout section for laying out the listed information selected by the listed
20 information selecting section, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,

wherein the layout system further comprises template
25 storage section for, regarding the predetermined layout region, storing a template for specifying a matter about the information storage frames arranged in the layout region,

the template can set a movable direction along which the information storage frame moves on the layout region,

the layout section stores the listed information in the plurality of information storage frames according to the
5 template of the template storage section, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames along the
10 movable direction of the information storage frames based on a setting on the movable direction in the template.

6. The layout system according to claim 5, wherein the template is a page template for specifying, regarding the
15 layout region constituting a page, at least one of a shape, size, or arrangement of the information storage frame arranged in the layout region.

7. The layout system according to claim 6, wherein the movable
20 direction is at least one of a first direction in a layout plane, a second direction opposed to the first direction, a third direction, and a fourth direction, the third and fourth directions being opposed to each other and perpendicular to the first and second directions.

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8. The layout system according to claim 6 or 7, wherein the page template can set the plurality of different movable directions for one information storage frame,

the layout section is set to move the information storage frames along one of the plurality of movable directions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames
5 along another direction of the plurality of movable directions.

9. The layout system according to claim 8, wherein a priority order is set for the plurality of movable directions, and
the layout section is set to move the information storage
10 frames along a direction having the highest priority of the plurality of movable directions, and the layout section is set to move the information storage frames along a direction having the second highest priority of the plurality of movable directions when the information storage frames still overlap
15 each other.

10. The layout system according to any one of claims 6 to 9, wherein the common movable direction for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template,
20 and

when any one of the plurality of information storage frames, which has the set common movable direction, overlaps another information storage frame with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set
25 to move the plurality of information storage frames, which have the set common movable direction, along the common movable direction.

11. The layout system according to claim 10, wherein the plurality of different common movable directions for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template,

5 the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames along one of the plurality of common movable directions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames along another
10 direction of the plurality of common movable directions with the information storage frames not overlapping each other.

12. A layout system, comprising listed information storage section for storing two or more pieces of listed information,
15 listed information selecting section for selecting the desired listed information from the listed information registered in the listed information storage section, and layout section for laying out the listed information selected by the listed information selecting section, the layout section generating
20 a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,

 wherein the layout system comprises template storage section for, regarding the predetermined layout region,
25 storing a template for specifying a matter about the information storage frames arranged in the layout region,

 the template can set a movable region in which the information storage frame moves on the layout region,

the layout section stores the listed information in the plurality of information storage frames according to the template of the template storage section, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other
5 with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in the movable region of the information storage frames based on a setting on the movable region in the template.

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13. The layout system according to claim 12, wherein the template is a page template for specifying, regarding the layout region constituting a page, at least one of a shape, size, or position of the information storage frame arranged
15 in the layout region.

14. The layout system according to claim 13, wherein the shape of the movable region is at least one of a rectangular shape, a circular shape, and other geometric shapes.

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15. The layout system according to claim 13 or 14, wherein the plurality of different movable regions for each of the information storage frames can be set in the page template,
the layout section is set to move the information storage
25 frame in one of the plurality of movable regions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in another region of the plurality of movable regions.

16. The layout system according to claim 15, wherein a priority order is set for the plurality of movable regions,

the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in a region having a highest priority among the plurality of movable regions,

and when the plurality of information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the information storage frame in a region having a second highest priority among the plurality of movable regions.

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17. The layout system according to claim 15 or 16, wherein the plurality of movable regions can be set across pages.

18. The layout system according to any one of claims 13 to 15 17, wherein the common movable region for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template, and

when one of the plurality of information storage frames, which have the set common movable region, overlaps another information storage frame with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames, which have the set common movable region, in the common movable region.

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19. The layout system according to claim 18, wherein the plurality of different common movable regions for the plurality of information storage frames can be set in the page template,

the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames in one of the plurality of common movable regions, and when the information storage frames still overlap each other, the layout section is set to move the plurality of information storage frames in another region of the plurality of common movable regions with the information storage frames not overlapping each other.

20. A layout system, comprising listed information storage section for storing two or more pieces of listed information, listed information selecting section for selecting the listed information from the listed information storage section, and layout section for laying out the listed information selected by the listed information selecting section, the layout section generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermined layout region,

wherein the layout system comprises template storage section for, regarding the predetermined layout region, storing a template for specifying a matter about the information storage frames arranged in the layout region,

the template can set a movable direction along which the information storage frame moves on the layout region, and a movable region,

the layout section stores the listed information in the plurality of information storage frames according to the template of the template storage section, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other,

the layout section is set to move the overlapping information storage frames in the movable region along the movable direction based on a setting on the movable direction and the movable region in the template to a position where the information storage frames do not overlap each other.

21. The layout system according to any one of claims 5 to 20, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user,

10 wherein the listed information selecting section selects the listed information from the listed information storage section based on the user information of the user information storage section.

15 22. The layout system according to any one of claims 5 to 20, further comprising user information storage section for storing user information about a user,

 wherein the layout section lays out listed information, which is selected by the listed information selecting section, based on the user information of the user information storage section.

23. A layout program for causing a computer to perform processing realized as the layout section of a layout system, wherein when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section moves at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames

along a movable direction of the information storage frames with the plurality of overlapping information storage frames not overlapping each other.

- 5 24. A layout program for causing a computer to perform processing realized as the layout section of a layout system, wherein when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout section moves at least
10 one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in a movable region of the information storage frames with the plurality of overlapping information storage frames not overlapping each other.
- 15 25. A layout method, comprising a layout step of laying out listed information, the layout step generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermine layout region, wherein the layout method includes a movable direction
20 setting step of setting a movable direction of the information storage frames on the layout region, and when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the information storage frames, the layout step moves at least
25 one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames along the movable direction of the information storage frames.

26. A layout method, comprising a layout step of laying out listed information, the layout step generating a layout by storing the listed information in a plurality of information storage frames arranged in a predetermine layout region,

5 wherein the layout method includes a movable direction setting step of setting a movable region of the information storage frames on the layout region, and

 when the plurality of information storage frames overlap each other with the listed information stored in the
10 information storage frames, the layout step moves at least one of the plurality of overlapping information storage frames in the movable region of the information storage frames.

27. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating
15 a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

 wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a group and is set to move at least one of the
20 information storage frames belonging to the same group so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship with each other.

28. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating
25 a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a group, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, laterally on the layout region, and is set to move some or all of the information storage frames
5 vertically so as to align upper ends or lower ends, so that a layout is generated.

29. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames
10 movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a group, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, vertically on the layout region,
15 and is set to move some or all of the information storage frames laterally so as to align right ends or left ends, so that a layout is generated.

30. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating
20 a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information, which is composed of a character string of horizontal writing, in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage
25 frames into a group, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, laterally on the layout region, and is set to move some or all of the information storage frames

vertically so as to align row positions, so that a layout is generated.

31. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating
5 a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames
movably on a layout region and storing listed information,
which is composed of a character string of vertical writing,
in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage
10 frames into a group, arranges the information storage frames,
which belong to the same group, vertically on the layout region,
and is set to move some or all of the information storage frames
laterally so as to align line positions, so that a layout is
generated.

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32. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating
a layout by arranging a plurality of rectangular information
storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed
information in the information storage frames,

20 wherein the layout section forms the information storage
frames into a group, arranges the information storage frames,
which belong to the same group, diagonally on the layout region,
and moves some or all of the information storage frames so
as to connect corners, so that a layout is generated.

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33. The layout system according to any one of claims 27 to
32, wherein the layout system is set so that the information
storage frames are expandable or reducible according to an

amount of the listed information, and when the positional relationship is changed by expansion or reduction, some or all of the information storage frames are further moved so as to have an original relative positional relationship, so
5 that a layout is generated.

34. A layout system, comprising layout section for generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in
10 the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a group, arranges the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a relative positional relationship on the layout region, can expand or
15 reduce the information storage frames according to an amount of the listed information, determines a relative positional relationship between barycenters of the information storage frames before storing the listed information, and when a barycenter of the information storage frame serving as a
20 reference is displaced by expansion or reduction of the information storage frame, the layout section is set to displace barycenters of the other information storage frames according to a displacement amount to maintain the predetermined relative positional relationship, so that a
25 layout is generated.

35. The layout system according to claim 34, wherein when the barycenter of the information storage frame serving as

the reference is displaced and the other information storage frames accordingly move out of the layout region, the layout section is set to reduce a distance between the barycenters while maintaining a ratio of distances in the relative positional relationships of the information storage frames, so that a layout is generated.

36. The layout system according to any one of claims 27 to 35, wherein when the information storage frames are moved, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames to a position where none of the information storage frames overlaps allocated information storage frames of another group, so that a layout is generated.

37. The layout system according to any one of claims 27 to 36, wherein the layout section is set to lay out the information storage frames based on a template for defining a layout of the listed information beforehand.

38. A layout program for realizing a function of layout section by means of a computer, the layout section generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a group and is set to move the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a relative positional relationship with each other.

39. A layout program for realizing a function of layout section by means of a computer, the layout section generating a layout by arranging a plurality of information storage frames movably on a layout region and storing listed information in the
5 information storage frames,

wherein the layout section forms the information storage frames into a group, moves the information storage frames, which belong to the same group, so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship, and stores the listed
10 information in the information storage frames, and when the information storage frame is expanded or reduced according to an amount of the stored listed information and changes the positional relationship, the layout section is set to move the information storage frames so as to have the predetermined
15 relative positional relationship again, so that the listed information is laid out.

40. A layout method, wherein a plurality of information storage frames, which are formed into a group, are arranged
20 movably on a layout region, the information storage frames constituting the group are moved so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship, and listed information is stored in the information storage frames, so that listed information is laid out.

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41. A layout method, wherein a plurality of information storage frames, which are formed into a group, are arranged movably on a layout region, the information storage frames

constituting the group are moved so as to have a predetermined relative positional relationship, listed information is stored in the information storage frames, the information storage frames are expanded or reduced according to an amount
5 of the listed information, and the information storage frames are moved so as to restore a relative positional relationship of the information storage frames, which have been changed by expansion or reduction, to the predetermined relative
10 positional relationship, so that listed information is laid out.